



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

be some private collector, who would not be likely to turn informer. Altogether, it looks as if we should have some lively times in the trade before the war of jealous and rival interests is over, and white-winged Peace folds a united and happy family to her bosom.

In refutation of certain statements which have been made in connection with his recent difficulty with the Government, Mr. Gross positively affirms that he has never sold but two pictures by artists of the Barbizon school, and that both of these came with ample certification from leading dealers in this city. He makes a specialty of the works of living artists, which he procures either from the artists themselves or from responsible dealers, whose guarantees are as convincing to him as his own knowledge, and he claims to be the most successful intermediary between the foreign artist and the American buyer of any importer of paintings in this country.

Apropos of the paragraph in the last issue of THE COLLECTOR alluding to Mr. Gross, I wish to state that this gentleman has produced convincing evidence to me that these statements were most untrue and unjust. They were, in my case, based on other publications and on heresay, and I am happy to make here the amende honorable which my mistake demands. From the references which Col. Gross has made me to distinguished amateurs, and which have been amply confirmed, it seems to me that a great injustice has been done him in this matter, and I hope that it may be rectified in other directions as cheerfully and completely as I would like to have it rectified here. Certainly the works which Mr. Gross has sold to many of our foremost private collectors and public galleries attest to his judgment as a connoisseur in modern art, and to the value of his services to the public. I wish the Colonel the full measure of success which his energy and his enviable reputation merit.

DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

A MOVEMENT was set afoot last summer by ex-Mayor Courtenay, of Charleston, looking to the procurement of transcripts of the very large collection of original documents relating to South Carolina in London, from the date of the first grant of Charles I. to Sir Robert Heath, 4th of August, 1631, down to the opening of the Revolutionary war at the close of 1775, when the Royal Governor, Campbell, took refuge on board the *Tamer*, in Charleston Harbor, on September 15 of that year. Mr. Courtenay associated with him ex-Attorney General C. R. Miles, Mr. I. L. Weber, author of the new school history of that State; Mr. Jervey and Mr. Hinson, gentlemen of extensive reading, all actively interested in this important work. As a committee of the South Carolina Historical Society, these gentlemen successfully carried out the large work of having a canvass made in nearly all the thirty-five counties of the State, for signatures to a petition asking the General Assembly to undertake this work. It was thought a chimerical scheme, as the Legislative and State officers were largely "farmers and Alliance men." But the numerous signed petitions, representing thousands of names, impressed the legislators, and with only slight opposition a bill was passed creating a permanent commission of five, and appropriating \$4,000 to begin the work.

Governor Tillman has been friendly to this great State work. Under the act of Assembly he was to appoint four citizens, who with the Secretary of State were to comprise the Historical Commission. This the Governor has just done, and so acceptably that even his political enemies warmly approve his action. The four citizens are the Chief Justice of the State, ex-Mayor Courtenay, Prof. R. M. Dans, of the South Carolina College, and W. C. Benet, a prominent lawyer of Abbeville County. These original documents, upon which the interest of the commission centres, are not only of great extent but rich in historic material. Of course these will be finally printed and go out to the whole country, adding most interesting chapters to American early history. Ultimately will come the historian, who from these ample stores of fresh historical material, will give the country a true history of the Province and Colony of South Carolina, which until this procuring of documents is finished has been, and is, quite impossible. It is doubly interesting to record these facts, both for their own sake and to show what earnest effort and intelligent work will accomplish "away down south in Dixie."

Mr. W. T. Evans, who has founded for the Water Color Society the prize of \$300, is considering the question whether it might not be better to raise the sum to \$500 and take the picture for his private gallery.

OLD ENGLISH BOOKBINDINGS

THE beautiful and useful art of bookbinding has been richly illustrated by the exhibition at the Burlington Fine Arts Club, in Savile Row, London. It contained a very large collection, lent by many private owners, of books, manuscript and printed, from the eighth century to these latter years of the nineteenth, superbly or elegantly bound in metal, wood, ivory, parchment, leather, silk, velvet and other integuments, with ornamentation of gilding, carving, enameling, jewelry and embroidery, by the most accomplished Italian, German, Dutch, French and English artificers of successive periods.

An example of Pynson, which attracted much attention, was a copy of the abridgement of the statutes, printed in 1499. Pynson was a native of Normandy, and was a pupil of Caxton's; he worked in England from 1493 to 1529, and seems to have been specially favored by Henry VIII, as in the colophon of one of the editions of the statutes printed by him about 1509, he says:—"By me, Richard Pynson, squyer and prenter to the Kynge's noble grace." Perhaps it is in accordance with this rank of "squyer" that he uses the helmet of an esquire over his monogram.

This book is bound in wooden boards covered with sheepskin, and shows traces of where two clasps of leather have been. It is in excellent condition. On the obverse is the monogram R. P. on a shield, supported by two figures, surmounted by a helmet and mantling bearing a fillet and crest of a bird; in the sky are nine stars and in the base a flower and leaf. Surrounding this central design is a handsome floral border, having in each of the two upper corners a bird, and between them a man shooting, probably with crossbow. Two figures of saints are at the base, each crowned and having an aureole, and near the lower right hand corner is the bust of a king, crowned and bearing a sceptre. On the reverse is a similar plan of decoration, the central panel in this case having in the centre a double rose, surrounded by a decorative arrangement of vine leaves, grapes and tendrils. The border is a graceful floral pattern and has an arabesque at each corner.

Julian Notary was a Frenchman who worked at Westminster as early as 1498, and afterwards moved to the city. He used several forms of his initials on his bindings, and sometimes his name in full. Many books bound by Notary bear two stamps—the Royal coat of arms and the Tudor rose; and the copy of Cicero's Tusculan Orations, chosen as a type of his work, was printed for Jean Petit, at Paris, in the month of January, 1509. It is bound in beechen boards and covered in calf, sewn on leather bands, and having remains of clasps of leather fastened with brass, and was the property of Henry VIII. On the obverse of the book is the Royal coat of Henry VIII., the three fleur-de-lis of France quartered with the three lions of England, with the coats of St. George and the city of London in the upper part, flanked by the sun and moon. The supporters of the coat are the dragon and greyhound already mentioned, and the ground is decorated in the upper half with stars and in the lower with plants of an elementary design. All these decorations have been cut on the stamp in the easiest possible way, but quite effectively and boldly. On the reverse is a design with the Tudor rose in the centre, inclosed by two ribands borne by angels. On these ribands are the words:

Hec Rosa virtutis do cœlo missa sereno
Æternum florens regia sceptrā feret.

In the upper part of the stamp are again the coats of St. George and the city of London, with the sun and moon; stars and plants decorate the ground work also in a similar way to that used on the stamp just described. In the base are the initials of the binder, and his curious device, with the initials repeated in the lower part of it. This device is often found used by different binders, and is supposed by some authorities to be a debased representation of the ancient symbol of the lamb and the flag.

On larger books bearing the stamps of Julian Notary, both these stamps sometimes occur on the same side of the book, divided by a long panel bearing Tudor emblems and the initials L. R. and R. L., respectively tied together by a cord; the rose, lion, portcullis and pomegranate are all here. The portcullis was used by the Tudor family in reference to their descent from the House of Beaufort, and was probably typical of the castle of De Beaufort, in Anjou, where John, grandfather of Henry VII, was born.

In the bindings attributed to John Reynes, printer, stationer and bookbinder, who came to London about 1527, occur many instances of the curious shallow indentations, usually two in number and circular in form, the origin of which is still a matter of conjecture. The most likely explanation is that the stamps in which these marks are found are cut in wood, and pegged down to a block with wooden pegs cut the reverse way of the grain; these

pegs would be likely, after a short time, to start a little, which would fairly explain the appearance of the marks, which now and then show the pattern of the stamp continued across their surface, showing that they were themselves engraved.

The most interesting of the several beautiful stamps used by John Reynes is certainly that taken from an engraving by Thielman Kerver, a German designer and engraver of the fifteenth century; it is a coat of arms of our Lord Jesus Christ. The shield bears the cross, with crown of thorns and I. H. S.; spear, rod with sponge and three nails, palm branch, hammer, pincers, pierced hand, garment, dice and dice box, the head of Judas with money bag round his neck, the thirty pieces of silver, and the sepulchre. The coat is surmounted by a royal helmet and mantling, and as a crest is the pillar of flagellation, with rods and scourges, on the top of which is the cock that crew when St. Peter denied Christ. Two unicorns, emblems of purity, are used as supporters, and on a scroll at the bottom are the words "Redemptoris Mundi Arma." In the two upper corners are two shields, one bearing the initials of the binder, bound together by a ribbon tied in an elaborate knot; the other a monogram with the letters I. N. R. I. The two upper corners are rounded off and adorned with a small arabesque design. At the top and sides a narrow border encloses the central design, consisting at the top of a ribbon arranged in a wavy line, and at the sides of an arabesque pattern repeated. The stamp is very delicately cut, and is probably of foreign make. On the reverse are the two designs of a royal coat of arms and Tudor rose already described, with a few small differences, the most important one being that underneath the rose appears the pomegranate, which was the badge used by Katherine of Arragon, King Henry VIII.'s first wife; it was adopted by her father Ferdinand to commemorate his conquest of Granada. The book thus dressed is a copy of a "Psalterium Cisterclensis ordinis, etc.," printed at Paris in 1525, and was probably bound in London a few years later than this; it has beechen boards, is covered in calf leather, has remains of leather clasps and a short MS. title on the fore edge.

Several books were bound for Henry VIII. with his coat of arms on one side and that of Queen Katherine of Arragon on the other. The king's coat is supported by the dragon and greyhound, and has two portcullis and chains pendent from the base. In the upper part of the panel are two angels bearing scrolls, and between them a small Tudor rose. The obverse of this book—a collection of early tracts, most of them printed by Wynkyn de Worde—bears the coat of arms of Henry and Queen Katherine impaled. The Queen's coat is divided into four grand quarters, with the pomegranate of Arragon in the base point. The first and fourth quarters bear the arms of Castile and Leon quartered; the second and third the arms of Arragon and Sicily impaled. The shield is supported by two angels, which were often used in this way to support royal arms; and in the lower part of the panel is a piece of ground represented by wavy lines, on which are growing sundry plants and flowers, and at the top also are two flower sprays. Similar bindings are also found not uncommonly with the same designs as this last described, only differing in having the coat of Queen Anne Boleyn substituted for that of Queen Katherine, and bound in the same way in wooden boards, covered in calf leather, and having remains of leather clasps.

There are very many other most interesting bindings remaining of this early time; specimens existing that are supposed to have been executed by Nicholas Spierinck, of Cambridge; Theodore Rood, of Oxford; Richard Lant, Gerald van Graten, Jean Moulin and a host of others. Among the many valuable and little known private libraries that exist all over England are numbers of rare specimens of the bibliopogist's art. It should not be forgotten that any binding, in however bad a state it may be, that bears any initial, design, or manner of decoration that can in any degree help to identify the work with any known name, is eagerly sought for and valued by the ever increasing number of antiquaries interested in this section of book lore.

The Burlington Club exhibition was made up of loans to which the Queen and other British book-lovers contributed, as well as certain old libraries like those of Durham Cathedral and of Westminster Abbey. To the catalogue of the collection Mr. Gordon Duff contributed a preface on the earlier English stamped bindings, and Mr. S. T. Prideaux another on the more artistic development of the craft in Italy and in France particularly. Mr. Prideaux so far conquered the bias of patriotism as not to overpraise Roger Payne, whom some British writers on bibliopogey have set on a level with Padeloup and Derome. Both prefaces are written soberly, in excellent taste, and out of the fulness of knowledge.

A copy of the first edition of Smollett's "Peregrine Pickle" sold in London a few weeks ago for \$157.

THE GEORGE BANCROFT LIBRARY

SINCE the death of George Bancroft, the historian, it has been a matter of some public curiosity as to what was to be done with his books. It is now understood that the executors have catalogued them and are about to offer them for sale in one lot only, and it is suggested that the Newberry Library, of Chicago, will purchase them. The executors of Mr. Bancroft are of the firm of Messrs. Riggs & Co., the Washington bankers. The library is a very large one, about twice the size of S. L. M. Barlow's, and three times as large as the Menzies library. Mr. Bancroft was born in 1800. His habits were simple and his diet spare. He was not above reading little books on the art of preserving life, and as is well known, took frequent exercise on horseback when nearly ninety years old. The library is abundant in testimony to his industry and scholarship. Mr. John F. Sabin, an unquestionable authority who has been through it, says of it:

"It might be questioned if Mr. Bancroft's residence in Washington were a house with a library, or a library with a few rooms about it to live in. A large, high, square room, shelved from floor to ceiling, on the west side may be called the main library. Every inch of the wall-space is occupied by books, and on many of the shelves are double rows. At the east side of the house is another room, not so large, but even more closely packed with books from top to bottom. Between these two is a smaller room, with a bookcase containing mostly English standard and dramatic authors, with between 2,000 and 3,000 historical pamphlets. In the third story, the east room is well filled with books. The hall of the second story is furnished with a case full of fine books, nor can any one get away from bookcases in the hall on the top floor. The reception room contains two well-filled oak bookcases occupied by books in fine bindings. The Lodge's Portrait Gallery is a superb copy in rich morocco. The best editions of Macaulay, Burke, Gibbon, and Strickland are all handsomely bound. Among the scarce books here is the twenty-volume edition of De Foe.

"The books in the east room relate chiefly to the history of North and South America, abounding in the histories of the colonies and of the States, local histories of towns, counties, etc., settlement of the West, California, Texas, numerous items relating to the discovery and settlement of Canada, innumerable pamphlets bound in volumes relating to the history of the country and exhibiting the genesis of the American Revolution. In the section relating to New York is to be found the rare quarto edition of 'Horsmanden's History of the Negro Plot to destroy New York.' Also in this room is a portion of the department of American biography, together with publications and proceedings of societies, old laws, documents, and archives, matters relating to the Indians, discoveries of the Mississippi, pioneer conquests, etc. Mr. Bancroft possessed himself of various grand books, descriptive and reproductive of the chief European galleries, as the Musée Français and the Musée Royal, the beautiful Florence Gallery, Finden's Royal Gallery of British art, in proof state. The grand Musée of the Vatican is represented in a series of folio volumes, which, in binding, is a splendid specimen of work in vellum, and altogether a set fit for a grandee. Sir Joshua Reynolds is represented in three folio volumes of mezzotints.

"Among the little books of great value are George Alsop's 'Character of the Province of Maryland,' printed in London, 1666, a book about the size of one's hand, worth more than its weight in gold; Lederer's 'Discoveries in Three Marches from Virginia,' a copy in matchless condition, printed in 1672; Leclerc's 'Etablissement de la Foi,' two little volumes, lately priced in London at forty pounds; Scott's 'Model of the Government of East Jersey,' with names of the early settlers, 1685; also best editions of Hennepin. Among books of voyages and travels may be named the collections of Purchas, Hakluyt, Ramusio, etc., works of Oviedo, Herrera, Barcia, etc., a finely bound copy of Captain Smith's 'History of Virginia,' folio, 1632. Of maps and atlases of America there are several folios. Revolutionary history in all its details and collaterals is of course abundantly represented. One old folio volume contains the original Court-Martials held by order of Washington on Schuyler, on St. Clair, and on Lee, and also proceedings of the Assembly of New Jersey in 1780, and the acts in 1777, etc. The Court-Martials are enriched by the insertion of some MS. notes in the autograph of Bancroft.

"A particular feature adding interest and uniqueness to Bancroft's library is the amount of marginal and other annotation and comment which he has placed with his own hand in very many of the books, and the value of these comments can by no means be measured by their quantity, as for instance a statement of his appended to a marked paragraph, such as 'This is not true.' Of many books he has made working copies, sometimes interleaving as well as writing upon the margins and inserting cuttings and scraps and pieces of publications, which apply to statements of the text. For instance, he has interleaved and extended 'Holmes's Annals' in two volumes to five, and this work seems to have received his most particular attention, as he has filled up many interleaved pages by his own hand.

"A folio, in old calf-binding is rich in treasures; it contains sixty-nine pieces, printed from 1657 to 1682. It originally came from David Brearly, of New Jersey, and was finally presented to Mr. Bancroft by J. W. Alexander. Some of these pieces were printed for the Parliament of Oliver Cromwell. One of them, in black letter, a petition to